

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 26 April 1948

SUBJECT Political Information: Activities in Mukden of Vladimir Drosdov, Correspondent of North China News Agency

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1X

Document No. 006  
NO CHANGE in Class. ☐  
DEVASSIFIED ☒  
Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C  
IA Memo, 4 Apr 77  
Auth: DDA-REG. 77/1763  
24 APR 1977

NO. OF ENCLIS.

DATE OF INFO 25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE LAWS, U.S.C. 1831 AND 1832, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE USE OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED. OTHER INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS NOT TO BE RELEASED OR DISCLOSED WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION BY THE ISSUING AGENCY.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

SOURCE 25X1X

25X1X

25X1X

1. Soon after his arrival in Mukden in December 1947, Vladimir Drosdov, correspondent for the North China News Agency (head office, Tientsin) wrote a story about the poverty-stricken Mukden Soviet citizens. This story was published in a Shanghai newspaper. When word of it reached Almarov, head of Forgpredstvo in Mukden and leader of the Mukden Soviet community, he reprimanded Drosdov for daring to make known to "foreigners" the facts concerning Mukden Soviet residents. Drosdov replied that he would write as he pleased until otherwise instructed by his agency.

25X1X

2. In January 1948, Drosdov wrote an article on the plight of Mukden Churin Company employees. The form of this article was copied from one appearing in an American newspaper and showed how many hours an employee had to work to make enough to buy a pair of shoes, a loaf of bread, a ton of coal, etc. This article was also published in Shanghai and Almarov again called in Drosdov and suggested that as a patriotic Soviet citizen he refrain from embarrassing Soviet officials by his stories. Drosdov replied that if Soviet Embassy officials were really interested in the plight of Soviet residents of Mukden they would have done something to help them before the winter started.

25X1X

3. On 4 February Drosdov wrote another story about the employees of the Churin Company which was also published in Shanghai papers on 5 February. Almarov received word of this story on 11 February but as he had not yet seen the story in question he said nothing to Drosdov beyond indicating that if the story did contain misrepresentations Drosdov could expect severe consequences.

4. The North China News Agency intends to withdraw Drosdov because of the strict censorship imposed on outgoing news by Chinese authorities in Mukden. Drosdov has not been paid by the agency since his arrival in Mukden and says he is unable to leave until the necessary funds arrive. Constantine Miroshnichenko, Mukden Soviet resident recruited by the agency, left Mukden on 10 February for Peiping, where he will remain with the agency to work exclusively with the agency's Chinese correspondents.

25X1X

5. Vladimir Drosdov has been refused renewal of his Soviet passport by Seryogin, Vice Consul of the USSR Consulate in Peiping, who went to Mukden in order to accomplish the renewal of Soviet passports for Soviet residents of Mukden. The reason given for the refusal is that Drosdov's stories about the Mukden Soviet community implied criticism of the USSR and its officials in China. Drosdov's severe punishment is the talk of the Mukden Soviet community. Drosdov states that he will write even franker articles when he gets out of Mukden.

25X1X

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE ☒ ARMY ☒ NAVY ☒ AIR ☒ HSSB ☒ WARNING NOTICE: THIS DISTRIBUTION LISTING MUST BE

EXCISED BEFORE PUBLIC RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT.